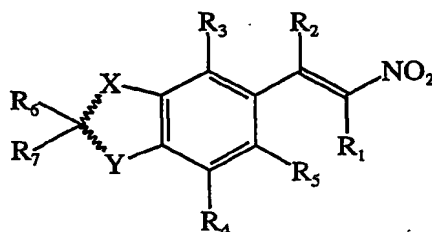


- 26 -

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:


1. A method of promoting growth comprising the step of administering an effective amount of a compound of formula I:



I

in which

X and Y are either the same or different and selected from a heteroatom;

- 15  is a double or single bond depending on the heteroatoms X and Y;

R₁ to R₅ are either the same or different and selected from hydrogen or a non-deleterious substituent; and

- 20 R₆ and R₇ are either the same or different and selected from hydrogen and a non-deleterious substituent or one of R₆ and R₇ are absent when there is a double bond present,

25 pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable salts or derivatives, pro-drugs, tautomers and/or isomers thereof to a subject in need thereof.

2. A method according to claim 1, in which the subject is an animal or a human.

30

3. A method according to claim 2, in which the animal is an intensively farmed animal.

4. A method according to claim 3, in which the intensively farmed animal is a mammal, bird or fish.

35

5. A method according to claim 4, in which the

mammal is a pig, cow or sheep and the bird is a chicken or turkey.

6. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 5,
5 in which X and Y are either the same or different and selected from O and N.


7. A method according to claim 6, in which X and Y are both O.
10

8. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 7, in which R₁ and R₂ are either the same or different and selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen and optionally substituted C₁₋₆ alkyl.
15

9. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 8, in which R₃ to R₅ are either the same or different and selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, nitro, C₁₋₆ alkoxy and optionally substituted C₁₋₆ alkyl.
20

10. A method according to claim 8 or claim 9, in which the halogen is chlorine or bromine.

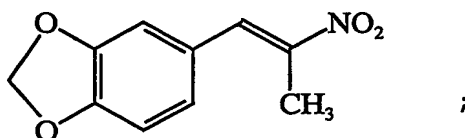
11. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 10,
25 in which the compound of the formula I is in the form of an E isomer.

12. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 11, in which X, Y, , R₆ and R₇ are as defined in claim 1; R₁ and R₂ are either the same or different and selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, Cl, Br and C₁₋₄ alkyl; and R₃ to R₅ are either the same or different and selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, Cl, Br, nitro, C₁₋₄ alkoxy and C₁₋₄ alkyl.
30

13. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 12, in which X and Y are O, R₁ is methyl and R₂ to R₇ are hydrogen (3,4-methylenedioxy-β-methyl-β-nitrostyrene)
35

ART 34 AMDT

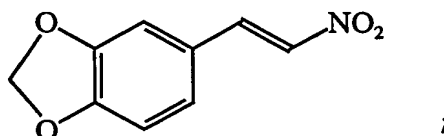
- 28 -



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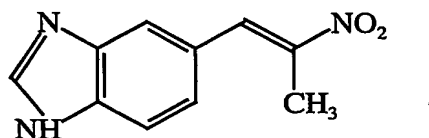
X and Y are O and R₁ to R₇ are hydrogen (3,4-methylenedioxy-β-nitrostyrene)



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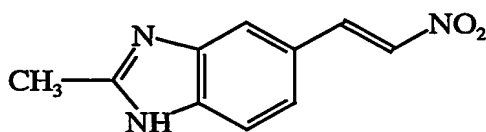
X is N, Y is NH, R₁ is methyl, R₂ to R₆ are hydrogen and R₇ is absent (benzimidazole-5-β-nitropropylene)



20

3

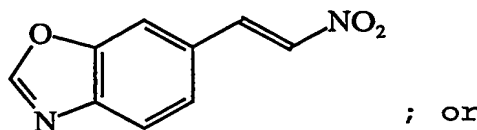
X is N, Y is NH, R₁ is to R₅ are hydrogen, R₆ is methyl and R₇ is absent (2-methyl benzimidazole-5-β-nitroethylene)



25

4

30 X is O, Y is N, R₁ to R₆ are hydrogen and R₇ is absent (benzoxazole-5-β-nitroethylene)



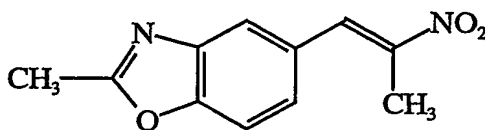
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5

ART 34 AMEND

- 29 -

X is N, Y is O, R₁ is methyl, R₂ to R₅ are hydrogen, R₆ is methyl and R₇ is absent (2-methyl benzoxazole-5-β-nitropropylene)



6

14. Use of the compound of formula I as defined in
10 any one of claims 1 to 13 in promoting growth of a
subject.
15. Use of the compound of formula I as defined in
any one of claims 1 to 13 in the manufacture of a
15 medicament or feed for promoting growth of a subject.
16. A compound of formula I as defined in any one of
claims 1 to 13 for use in promoting growth of a subject.
- 20 17. A composition for promoting growth in a subject,
which comprises the compound of formula I as defined in
any one of claims 1 to 13 and a carrier.
18. A pharmaceutical or veterinary composition
25 comprising the compound of formula I as defined in any one
of claims 1 to 13 and a pharmaceutically or veterinarily
acceptable carrier.
19. A composition according to claim 18 which is a
30 topical, oral or parenteral composition.
20. A composition according to claim 18 or claim 19
in which the pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable
carrier is an organic solvent.
- 35 21. A composition according to claim 20 in which the
organic solvent is acetone, benzene, acetonitrile, DMSO or

- 30 -

an alcohol.

22. A feed for promoting growth in a subject
comprising the compound of formula I as defined in any one
5 of claims 1 to 13.

23. A feed according to claim 22 which further
comprises a carrier selected from alfalfa meal, soybean
meal, cottonseed oil meal, linseed oil meal, sodium
10 chloride, corn meal, cane molasses, urea, bone meal, fish
meal, corncob meal, calcium chloride and vegetable or
plant oil.

24. A growth promoting agent or nutritional
15 supplement comprising the compound of formula I as defined
in any one of claims 1 to 13.

25. Use of the compound of formula I as defined in
any one of claims 1 to 13 as a growth promoting agent or
20 nutritional supplement.